

Sharpless House (Walker House)
On Birmingham Road (LR 15087), north of
State Route 926 (Street Road)
Birmingham Vicinity (Birmingham Township)
Chester County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-118

HABS,
PA,
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PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

STATE Pennsylvania	COUNTY Chester	TOWN OR VICINITY (Birmingham Birmingham Vicinity Township)
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Sharpless House		HABS NO. PA-118
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Walker House		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) On Birmingham Road (LR 15087), north of State Route 926 (Street Road)		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) Built in several stages, chronology unknown, front section built circa 1800 (prior to 1810).	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) House was built in several stages although the chronology is not known. The earliest section may date from the early 1700s, but the front section was built circa 1800. Birthplace of Isaac Sharpless, a Quaker leader and president of Haverford College 1887-1917.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Coursed hexagonal serpentine ashlar (west front) and coursed and random rubble.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) T-shaped; main section three by four bays with three-bay rear wing; two-and-a-half stories two-story wing on north elevation.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE The gable end of the roof is over the front elevation, an unusual design feature in Chester County; deep eaves; cornice returns; interesting stonework.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Built in several stages, chronology unknown; earliest section may date from early 1700s; front section built circa 1800 (prior to 1810); additions between 1800-31; remodeled 1861 and mid 20th century.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDE LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.)		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Deborah S. Burns, Historic American Buildings Survey		DATE 1979